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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 26, 2012
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Statement from Governor Jan Brewer

Maricopa County Superior Court upholds Empowerment Scholarship Accounts

Governor Jan Brewer today released the following statement regarding a Maricopa County Superior Court decision upholding the constitutionality of Arizona Empowerment Scholarship Accounts. In April 2011, the Governor signed into law SB 1553, which expanded the ability of students with special needs to attend private schools. The Governor's statement follows:

"As a champion of school choice and education innovation in Arizona, I commend the Court for upholding the constitutionality of Empowerment Scholarship Accounts. Empowerment Accounts are a powerful tool to expand educational opportunities for special-needs students in Arizona. I'm especially supportive of these accounts because they put funding directly in the hands of parents, allowing them to choose the school that best serves their child.

"Today's ruling is particularly apt, as it comes amid our celebration of National School Choice Week. I'll continue to fight for programs like Empowerment Scholarship Accounts that give power to parents rather than bureaucrats, while supporting innovative reforms that improve the productivity and performance of Arizona schools."

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